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Message Text

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46
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01

SAM-01 OMB-01 OIC-02 IO-13 SAJ-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 /097 W
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O R 141502Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8960
INFO EC COLLECTIVE 78
AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5011

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EEC, NL
SUBJ: US/EC PRESIDENTIAL DIALOGUE: MINISTERIAL MEETING
SEPT 11-12

1. ALTHOUGH MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR RUTTEN ACCOMPANIED
FONMIN VAN DER STOEL TO EC-9 MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
THIS WEEKEND, HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ALL THE DISCUSSIONS
AND HAD VERY LITTLE TO ADD TO PRESS REPORTS, WHICH HE
DESCRIBED AS ACCURATE REFLECTION OF WIDE RANGING DISCUSSIONS
OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.

2.RUTTEN SAID THAT MINISTERS HAD LONG DISCUSSION OF
CHAPTER 2 OF TINDEMANS REPORT WHICH THEY WOULD CONTINUE
SEPT 20 IN BRUSSELS PRIOR TO THE NORMAL MEETING OF
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. MUCH OF THE DISCUSSION HE TERMED
"EUROPEAN THEOLOGY" OF LITTLE INTEREST TO THOSE OUTSIDE
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. RECALLING THAT TINDEMANS HAD RECOMMENDED
DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON FOREIGN POLICY, RUTTEN SAID THAT
MAJORITY OF EC-9 REGARDED HIS PROPOSAL AS UNREALISTIC
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AND EMPHASIZED THAT THEY COULD ENVISAGE NO CIRCUMSTANCES

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IN WHICH THEIR GOVERNMENTS WOULD MAKE ANY SUCH COMMIT-
MENT. ONLY BELGIUM, IRELAND AND LUXEMBOURG SUPPORTED
TINDEMANS. NEW DRAFT OF CONCLUSIONS WILL BE PREPARED
AND CIRCULATED PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING.

3. MINISTERS DISUCSSIONS ON SEPT 12 CONCENTRATED
ON PORTUGAL WITH AGREEMENT REACHED THAT FONMIN
VAN DER STOEL SHOULD VISIT LISBON SEPT 18 PURSUANT
TO PORTUGUESE INVITATION TO DISCUSS DIFFERENT ASPECTS
OF PORTUGUESE INTEREST IN EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP IN
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY. MINISTERS AGREED THAT FORMAL
APPLICATION BY PORTUGAL FOR MEMBERSHIP IN PRESENT CIRCUM-
STANCES WOULD PRESENT SERIOUS PROBLEMS. CONSEQUENTLY,
DUTCH FONMIN INTENDED TO EXPLORE WITH PORTUGUESE
VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES THAT MIGHT MEET IMMEDIATE
PORTUGUESE NEEDS WITHOUT INVOLVING HIMSELF IN THE MUCH
MORE COMPLICATED ISSUES OF EVENTUAL MEMBERSHIP.
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